

# THE AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 28, 1857.

## Curiosities of Literature.

The following extracts from letters under the sign manual of Mr. Buchanan, disclose the eminent consistency of this distinguished head of the great National Democratic party. That which Mr. Buchanan firmly maintained to be orthodox in 1848 and 1856, it strikes him with amazement in 1857 to find that any one should venture to assert:

### JAMES BUCHANAN IN 1848.

"Having urged the adoption of the Missouri Compromise, the inference is irresistible, that Congress, in my opinion, possesses power to legislate upon the subject of slavery in the Territories."

### JAMES BUCHANAN IN 1856.

"This legislation—the Kansas and Nebraska bill—was founded on principles as free government itself, and in accordance with them, has simply declared that the people of a Territory, like those of a State, shall decide for themselves whether slavery shall exist within the limits."—*Acceptation of nomination for the Presidency.*

### PRESIDENT BUCHANAN IN 1857.

"Slavery existed at that period [when the Kansas and Nebraska bill was passed] and still exists in Kansas under the Constitution of the United States. This point has at last been decided by the highest tribunal known to our laws. How it could ever have been seriously doubted, is a mystery. If a confederation of sovereign States acquire a new territory at the expense of their common blood and treasure, surely one set of the parties can have no right to exclude the other from its engagement, by prohibiting them from taking into it whatever is recognized to be property by a common Constitution."—*Letter to Silliman.*

## AGENTS FOR THE AMERICAN.

For First, Second, Third and Fourth Wards, Henry Johnson, residence 408 K Street.  
For Georgetown, (The Embayment.)  
For South Ward, George T. Dykes.  
For Fifth and Seventh Wards, Mortimer Skell-wood.  
HENRY BOYER, Agent for Alexandria.

**PORTRAIT OF A "MODEL REPUBLIC" UNDER DEMOCRATIC RULE.**  
MURDERS, SUICIDES, ASSAULTS, BURLIARIES, AND LARCENIES, AND ACCIDENTS OF ALL SORTS, FORM A GLOWING CHAPTER IN THE RECORDS OF THE DAY.  
[N. Y. Correspondence Nat. Intell.]

**"THE RECORDS OF CRIME ARE BLACK ENOUGH THE PAST WEEK—NO LESS THAN SEVEN CASES OF MANSLAUGHTER AND A HEARTLESS CASE OF INFANTICIDE."**

**"NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY-TWO BANKS HAVE SUSPENDED."**

**"MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE THROWN-OUT OF EMPLOYMENT THIS WINTER."**

**"DESTITUTION AND DISTRESS STARE US IN THE FACE."**

**"AMERICANS WILL HOLD A CONFERENCE MEETING TO-MORROW EVENING AT THE USUAL PLACE. Come one, come all!"**

## MARYLAND BEWARE!!

Be on your guard and prepared for the conflict. Notwithstanding the denial of the Locomoco press, we know, and are prepared to prove, that the General Government are making provision to quarter in the city of Baltimore 2,000 regular troops, to overcome and shoot down Native Americans, if necessary, to secure a Democratic majority. We challenge an official denial.

We have been trying for some weeks to bespeak sundry craft of the American squadron, to wit: the Buffalo Commercial, the Albany Statesman, the Newark Eagle, the Cincinnati Times, the Lexington Observer, the Mobile Advertiser, and the Philadelphia News; but have not come within hailing distance of them. We now signal them to send a boat alongside of the American, "the flag-ship of the fleet." Let us see your papers.

We understand that Mr. Pate, who was a machinist in our Navy Yard, was dismissed some time since, because he was a member of the American party. Since his dismissal, the committee, who have the charge of these matters, waited on Mr. Pate, and informed him that if he would withdraw, and publish his recantation, he should be restored to his employment in the yard. Mr. Pate's recantation has made its appearance, and it is said that he will obtain employment on the 1st of November. Comment is unnecessary; but we cannot forbear expressing our indignation at this in this land, and at this day, that such tyranny and oppression should pass without a proper rebuke. We cannot censure Mr. Pate. A helpless family was dependent upon him, he could not obtain employment, he was removed without cause, as this action clearly shows; but in our heart of hearts we denounce and reprobate this cold-blooded tyranny.

## HIGH PRICES OF MARKETING.

The papers in many cities are justly complaining of the enormous prices of all kinds of vegetables, butter, eggs, flour, bread, and other articles of daily use and necessity. Such prices are a gross imposition upon the public. Some one in "The States" says the prices here are at least thirty per cent. higher than in Philadelphia and New York. That is true. He suggests that the people here should do as they did in Wilmington, Delaware—establish "a mutual provision store," by which they would save at least twenty per cent., or one dollar out of every five. That is not a bad idea.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Commodore "Molly Maguire" has been put in command of the navy yard at this place, and is as busy as a bee in a tar bucket taking care of her own children. Her cabinet council is the Jackson Association committee; principal adviser, McNe-henny, naval storekeeper.

The former commander of the yard, Commodore ———, though still permitted to "go through the motions," and occupy the commander's quarters, is relieved of all his duties, except those of employing hands to work in the yard.

St. Lawrence, (N. Y.) American.—This lively and piquant paper has been received. We used to read it last year with great pleasure, as it was then one of the staunchest American papers in the whole country. Now, however, it comes to us with the Democratic flag flying at its mast-head. How happens this? Has it been captured and passed into the possession of its old enemy?

Foreign News.—The latest accounts from India are in the main highly favorable and gratifying. The tide has turned, and we may now look for accounts of defeats and dispersals, if not of annihilations of the rebels in all parts of India. The financial storm has crossed the ocean, and is beginning to rage in Europe.

## "FREEDOM OF OPINION"—WHERE IS IT?

It may not be flattering or agreeable to the people of the United States to be told that, however much they may boast of the freedom of speech and of thought, and thank God that they are not as other people are, trammelled, "cabin'd and confin'd," in this respect, yet there are few indeed among them who are not restrained, either by fear, or prudence, or policy, from uttering, whenever and wherever prompted to do so, the real sentiments of their hearts, upon every subject and all subjects—"aye! free, off-hand." We appeal to the consciences of every man who reads this, for the truth of what we say.

I deny it, replies Mr. Politician; it is not so; I dare speak my inmost, honest sentiments and opinions, anywhere and everywhere.

Indeed, Mr. Politician? There you are an exception to the great body of people who belong to your class. But let us see whether you are so very independent and free of thought and speech. You belong, perchance, to the so-called Democratic party; if so, we take it for granted that you subscribe implicitly to every article of the present "platform" of that party? Yes, certainly I do. Do you reside in a free or slave State? A free State. Well, then, what is your opinion in regard to the rights of the people of a Territory to admit or exclude slavery into or from the Territory while it is yet a Territory? Remember, sir, that you are to be a candidate for the first or second office in the gift of the people, and the answer you are about to give may come up either for or against you when you shall come before them.

Mr. P.—To be honest and frank with you, that is a subject upon which I have not fully made up my mind, and am not, therefore, prepared to answer. But upon any subject that I have well considered, I will give my opinion freely.

Tell us, then, whether internal improvements, by national means, are constitutional or unconstitutional?

Mr. P.—I will do so. Undoubtedly, if the improvement to be made is of that peculiar character that it ought to be done by the Federal Government, and comes within the general scope and purview of the Constitution, and, moreover, does not belong to any one of the States, and especially if it is a work from which the nation, and not the States is to be benefited, I should, as at present advised, think it constitutional.

Very clear, comprehensive, frank, and explicit, Mr. Politician; no one can doubt now what your opinion is on that subject. But suppose you were a member of Congress, and a bill should pass authorizing such improvements and making appropriations for them, and the President should veto it—would you still vote for the bill?

Mr. P.—Why, as the President is undoubtedly an able statesman and constitutional lawyer, and as a cabinet composed of such men, also, by whose judgment and advice he would be sustained, I should, I think, rely more upon his judgment than my own, and should not, therefore, vote for the bill against his veto, unless the improvement were within my own district, for then I should know all about it.

Very good, Mr. Politician. We now comprehend and understand you fully. You are a very independent man, in thought, word, and deed—very.

Question northern men and southern men—politicians—upon the subject of slavery, and they will each answer in accordance with the general opinion of the section to which they respectively belong; nor dare they utter any sentiments not acceptable to the people of their own respective sections. And why? Because if they should they would at once put a knife to their own political throats, such is the intolerance of the public in every part of the country. Question politicians upon any subject of political controversy, and they will frame their answers so as to accord exactly, or as near as possible, with the opinions and doctrines of their party, as set down in the latest platform; nor dare they express, if they entertain, any other. The tyranny exercised over their minds is absolute, and to men of high tone and feeling, oppressive and galling—to all humiliating and debasing.

Let any man be a candidate in Massachusetts or South Carolina, or any other State, and his expressed opinions must conform exactly with those of the general community, or he would be discarded in double quick time. There is no latitude of thought upon certain questions, in either section, North or South. Take, for example, the Missouri Compromise; but two or three years ago its repeal was declared by the Virginia Legislature, cause of dissolving the Union; and yet, now it is the rankest heresy, an almost unpardonable sin, to maintain the constitutionality of that Compromise.

And the same intolerant spirit is abroad among the various sects of professing Christians. The old school and the new school Presbyterians split upon some point, the mere shadow of a shade, in doctrine, and the feeling of antagonism manifested by each, slight as was the dividing line, was, for a time, comparable only to that between two political parties. Whatever you are, Roman Catholic, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, or Baptist, you are not permitted to think differently from your church, nor question the soundness of any one of its dogmas.

Go into the realms of fashion, and the despotism exercised there will be found to be even more arbitrary. What fashionable lady dare dress in defiance? If fashion orders dresses to be flounced and made to sweep the street, who has hardihood enough to dispense with flounces, or wear dresses that will not trail in the mud, or gather the dust of the side walk? If fashion decrees that the bonnet shall be stuck only upon the back of the head, what lady so daring as to appear with one covering and shading her forehead? If fashion says "crinoline," crinolines it is, from princess to peasant, from drawing-room to kitchen. If fashion orders expansion, unlike our banks, at the word every lady expands to the utmost limits of her metallic—hoops. Fashion's will is absolute, her judgment infallible, her rule despotic, her sway irresistible, her frown withering and fatal. "Passive obedience" is the dogma of her subjects or slaves, and we be to her who dares to rebel by thinking and acting contrary to her will and pleasure.

The same despotism is brought to bear upon us all in our domestic affairs, our style of living, the kind of house we must occupy, its furniture, the number of our servants, &c., &c.; and this despotism exaction has had no small agency in bringing about the terrible financial storm which now sweeps over our whole land.

When shall we emancipate ourselves from the thrall we are in, and learn to think, speak and act like men, and freemen?

Mr. Dodge, our Minister to Spain, and Mr. Mason, Minister to France, will both, it is stated, resign and return home in the spring.

## DEFENCE OF THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE.

The National Intelligencer of Saturday contained the first of four numbers, in defence of the constitutionality and sound policy of the Missouri Compromise, and also embracing some collateral and german subjects, written by the Hon. GEORGE ROBERTSON, late Chief Justice of the State of Kentucky, who was a member of Congress when that measure passed, and voted for it.

Judge ROBERTSON has few superiors in the United States as a jurist, a statesman, a scholar, and a writer. Being, as he says, the youngest member of that Congress, and almost the only surviving one, he comes forward at the call of duty to vindicate the memories of his departed associates, and his own conduct, for having passed a measure now flippantly denounced as both impolitic and unconstitutional, thereby implying that its authors were either pitifully ignorant or strangely unprincipled. We hope these numbers will be generally republished throughout the Union, and be issued in a pamphlet form, so that they may be generally read.

Speaking of the policy and constitutionality of the Compromise, Judge Robertson says: "In all the best and most conservative elements of wise and patriotic American statesmanship, the councils which concurred in that saving compromise—President, Cabinet, Congress, and all—were certainly equal, and I will presume to say, vastly superior, to those who destroyed it. MONROE, and ADAMS, and SMITH THOMPSON, and CRAWFORD, and CALHOUN, and WYLLIE, and CLAY, and LOWMEYER, and WILLIAM PINKNEY, and LOUIS McLANE, and a host of other eminent patriots and jurists, illustrated by their able and zealous cooperation that great and necessary treaty of peace."

"Nor ought there to be any doubt that, while it was a wise national measure, just to North and South, it was more Southern than Northern. When adopted it was considered Southern enough for the South and too Southern by the North. A very large majority of the Southern members of the House of Representatives and quite few of the Northern members voted for it. Only seven Northern Senators voted for it, and all the Southern Senators supported it."

The compromise, when adopted, was hailed in the South as a Southern triumph. That comprehensive compromise, [the Compromise of 1850], intended and proclaimed as a final and irrevocable adjustment of the question of slavery in all the territory then owned or ever to be owned by the United States, left Kansas and Nebraska under the operation of the Missouri Compromise as valid and binding. And leading Democrats, as well as the South generally, had voted for the extension of the Missouri Compromise line to the Pacific. As the Compromise of 1850 was intended as a final disposition of the subject of slavery in all the territory of the United States, and left Kansas and Nebraska subject to the Missouri Compromise, that they should remain subject to it was necessarily an implied stipulation in the compact, and without which it never, as I believe, would have been consummated. The repeal of the Missouri Compromise was, therefore, a clear breach of the great Compromise of 1850."

In this view we entirely concur with Judge Robertson. Speaking of slavery, the Judge says: "All interference with it by foreign tongues or alien powers only prolongs its existence and aggravates its evils, as we in Kentucky have long seen and felt and too well know. Extraneous agitation of it operates injuriously to slaves and unjustly to their owners; disturbs the peace of the Union and weakens its moral ties; is inconsistent with the national spirit which alone breathes the breath of life into the heart of that Union; generates sectional strife, organizes geographical parties, and nourishes demagogues, without any hope of national good or prospect of benefit to either the black or the white race."

There are few, save the ultraists and agitators on both sides, North and South, who will not assent to these sentiments. But for the agitation of the subject of slavery, as commenced about twenty-five years ago, there can be no reasonable doubt that the work of gradual emancipation would have long since commenced, and would now be in rapid progress in Kentucky, in Delaware, in Virginia, in Maryland, and probably in Tennessee and Missouri. But agitation has postponed emancipation more than a half, perhaps more than a full century, if not indefinitely.

## EX-SENATOR FOOTE.

This gentleman, formerly United States Senator from Mississippi, and more recently an aspirant for political honors at the hands of the American party of California, has lately delivered himself of a speech (it is said) in Tennessee, wherein he advised his "American" friends to disband and join the (sham) Democratic party! Did he join the American party to betray it? Is he honest in his advice? Would he ask "Americans" to sing hosannas to "alien suffrage" democracy? Would he expect "Americans" to degrade themselves by joining the "Squatter Sovereignty" cohorts? Does he desire "Americans" to support an administration which has summarily dismissed every "American" from political office and from governmental employment, and put Irishmen and Dutchmen in their places?

At this very moment an unrelenting proscription of "Americans" is being practised everywhere in the country, under the auspices of this rotten, corrupt, foreign dynasty! At this very moment Bishop Hughes, of New York, has more influence at the White House than any ten other politicians in the United States! At this very moment, an immigrant fresh from Ireland or Germany, has twenty times the prospect for employment on the government works, or even in subordinate stations in the Departments, than Americans possess! And under such circumstances, when American doctrines are denounced by the hirings of the administration, ex-Senator Foote counsels the American party to abandon its organization, and go over to the present "alien suffrage," "squatter sovereignty," sham Democratic party.

Ex-Senator Foote has the right to go wherever he pleases, but he has been rather too short a term of service in the American party, to have any influence over others, when he makes so preposterous a proposition. We would "sooner be a dog, and bay the moon, than such" an American!

Americans! falter not in the support of your principles—be not dismayed, though thousands of such men prove recreant to our cause. Americanism must yet prevail, or the experiment of free government must prove to be a farce!

The Colonization Society ship "Mary Caroline Stevens" will sail from Baltimore and Norfolk the 1st of November, for all the ports in the Republic of Liberia. Letters for the Liberian settlements, and for the United States African squadron, will be forwarded, if sent in season, to care of Dr. James Hall, Baltimore.

## THE CAUSE OF THE MONEY PRESSURE.

Mr. Nathan Appleton, of Boston, an eminent merchant, has addressed a letter to the Boston Daily Advertiser, in which he gives the causes of the present pressure, throwing the whole responsibility upon the New York Banks.

When men of Mr. Appleton's age, experience, integrity, and high character, moral and mercantile, speak upon subjects that come home to the business and bosoms of every member of the community, they will be listened to with attention.

We quote from his letter what seems to be its pith and marrow:

"Hunt's Merchants' Magazine contains tables of the weekly returns of the banks of the city of New York for the years 1856 and 1857, which furnish a complete view of their operations. They throw a flood of light on the present state of things. The return for January 1, 1857, shows \$104,000,000 of liabilities, with \$11,772,000 in specie. This varied very little from the return of the preceding six months, and this state of things continued with little change, but with a slight tendency to increased expansion up to the 15th of August. The greatest expansion was on the 2d of May when the liabilities were \$108,000,000, with \$12,000,000 of specie. The return of 15th of August shows \$101,000,000 of liabilities and \$11,860,000 of specie. From this a rapid contraction commenced, the liabilities being reduced on the 5th of September to \$83,000,000, with \$10,227,000 of specie. Here the contraction ought to have ceased. The object was to stop the export of specie. That had been done. Exchange on London had fallen below the point at which specie could be shipped without loss. On any more contraction there would have been a reason or apology why contraction should continue a day after this point had been reached. The banks were then stronger than they had been for two years. But contraction did continue until, on the 3d of October, the liabilities had been reduced to \$74,000,000—thus reducing the circulating medium of New York city, from July, \$82,000,000, or upwards of 80 per cent. Tremendous! Was the like ever known in the history of banking? I have no hesitation in saying it is the continued contraction of the New York banks since the 5th of September, which is the slightest necessity, which has brought about the present disastrous crisis."

There was no decided over-trade. There was no speculation, except by a few houses in sugar. There was, no doubt, an excess of imports, but no greater than for several years, and the effect of this was wholly cured on the 28th September. The rate of exchange on London. Why continue contraction further? Was not eighty-eight millions, with ten and a quarter millions of specie, being 11½ per cent, a safe proportion as one hundred and four millions of specie, or eleven millions of specie, or 11 per cent. on their liabilities."

There is but one answer. The New York banks have been acting under a panic, and that panic they have communicated to others, until there is a general loss of confidence. The consequences are before us, in the paralysis of all trade from Bangor to New Orleans, the stoppage of banks through a great part of the United States; the stoppage of factories; the discharge of thousands of laborers; the inability to bring our large crops of produce to market; the ruinous rate of two or three per cent. a month on the strongest paper; a ruinous depreciation in the price of all stocks, and even on exchange on London. In my whole experience I have never known a crisis as severe as the present, and I must say, so wholly uncalculated for."

"I was a bank director in 1814, when New York and all the States South and West suspended specie payments. Boston had ample means and stood firm, while many croakers thought it madness for Boston to hold on, when all the rest of the country suspended. She did so, however, and all New England, and she saved them the loss which accompanied the resumption in the South in the terrible revolution of 1819."

## KANSAS.

The following is from the Chicago Democrat of the 23d instant. We publish it without knowing any of the facts. The same statements have appeared in the St. Louis Democrat. If the facts are correctly stated, outrages have been perpetrated upon the ballot-box which are a disgrace to our public officers, and must recoil upon the heads of their authors. If elections cannot be honestly and fairly conducted—if the ballot-box is no longer an exponent of the wishes of legal voters, better at once abolish elections and discard the ballot-box.

But we hope it will turn out that the election in Kansas has been fairly, honestly, and legally conducted, whatever may be the result.

"FRAUDS IN KANSAS.—All the Free-State papers complain of immense frauds in the management of the election in Kansas. 'It will be remembered that in almost all cases the judges and clerks elected belonged to the pro-slavery party. The bogus Legislature fixed the polls to suit themselves, they appointed their own creatures as judges. Of course, under this arrangement the blackest frauds might have been perpetrated with impunity.'

"But still it is found that after all the importations of voters, votes were still wanting to swamp those of the Free-State men. In that case the judges and clerks did not hesitate in some places to re-open the polls again, and also to alter the election returns in the most barefaced and fraudulent manner."

"In Johnston county the most astonishing scheme for overcoming the vote of Douglas, a neighboring county, was resorted to. These two counties elect jointly eight representatives, and three councilmen. Douglas gave 1,682 Free State votes, 187 Pro-Slavery votes. Such a majority was anticipated by both parties. To overcome it provision had been made beforehand in the apportionment. Johnston county affords Missouri, and comprises the Shawnee lands which are not even legally open for settlement. Many of the claims on the lands were made by Missourians, as early as February and March last. The census which was taken on the 1st of April, shows that 496 voters in the whole county. These figures, of course, also embrace a number of fictitious voters. Those who arrived in the Territory after the 1st of April are not legal voters. Nevertheless, an attempt was made to return a Democratic majority of 1,750 from this county. By fast accounts the returns had not been received at Leavenworth, but the pretended vote is as follows:

FOR CONGRESS.	COUNCILMEN.
Ransom, Dem.....1,750	Bledsoe, Dem.....1,800
Parrot, Rep.....65	Jones, ".....1,792
	.....1,792

REPRESENTATIVES—ALL DEMOCRATS.

Sykes.....1,798
Wells.....1,798
Boling.....1,798
Thompson.....1,798
.....1,798

A base forgery, having been gotten up by the judges and clerks of election.

"On the first day of the vote the county stood Free State 120, Pro-Slavery 307. The second day the above numbers were polled. The Free-State men, it will thus be seen, not satisfied with disfranchising nineteen counties in the original apportionment, have thus resorted to the basest system of fraud, not only in the shape of illegal voting, but by adding the crimes of perjury and forgery to their already monstrous record."

"Governor Walker promised the people of Kansas again and again, a fair election; but this does not look like it."

## A WATER HAUL.

The Kansas-Nebraska act was, beyond all question, conceived, gestated, and brought forth for the purpose of restoring to the South territory a portion of the people of that section believed to have been unjustly taken from them, and given to the North by the Missouri Compromise act. The South then, not at first, but eventually, came into the measure with the understanding that Kansas was to become a slave State. If this were not the object and motive, why was the country disturbed after it had settled down in peace and quietness under the Compromise of 1850? Why, after both parties had solemnly declared in their National Conventions, in 1852, that that compromise should be a *finality*, an end of the slavery question, and that they would never agitate it either in or out of Congress, did the Democratic party re-open the slavery question and the flood-gates of agitation, if it were not to make Kansas a slave State? Did they not act out of a motive? Did they offer Kansas as a battlefield, and as a prize, to the North and South, merely for the sport to be afforded by an ambitious mischief? If so, they were guilty of malicious mischief—of being moved by the most ignoble and criminal motives. Such, however, were not the motives that prompted such men as Atchison, Butler, Mason, Toombs, Douglas, Benjamin, Sillidell, and others. They labored to secure a slave State in Kansas, and in the nomination and election of Mr. Buchanan, congratulated themselves that they had rendered certain the object they sought. But has the South won the prize, or has she been deceived and defrauded? She deemed it within her grasp, because it was within the clutch of her own President; but where is it now? Mr. Buchanan seems determined that Kansas shall send Democratic Senators to Congress, but if the South expected him to make it a slave State she has been much mistaken, that's all!

## MRS. MYRA CLARK GAINES.

This lady, whose heroic and indefatigable efforts for twenty-five years to vindicate her rights have made her name familiar to the entire country, is now in this city. Her history sounds more like the realization of the romantic fictions of the Middle Ages than a sober story of facts. Notwithstanding the long years of agonizing suspense she has endured, and the arduous struggles she has put forth, she retains her natural buoyancy and a remarkable degree, and looks twenty years younger than she really is. When she first commenced her struggle, and for long years of suspense afterwards, and labor, the public looked on with coldness, if not with distrust; but her undaunted courage, her unflinching perseverance, her unyielding faith in the rectitude of her cause, and in the certainty of its ultimate triumph, together with the womanly beauty of her own character and her late successes before the Courts, have turned the tide, and the popular pulse now beats in sympathy with her. Her cause comes on before the United States Court here in November. In case of success, of which she is now more confident, of course, than ever, she does not intend to disturb any poor people who have purchased property which will then be here, at all. This is characteristic and praiseworthy. Mrs. Gaines is an honor to her sex.—*New Orleans Commercial Bulletin.*

In her romantic life is illustrated the saying that "truth is stranger than fiction." So much energy, perseverance under disheartening obstacles, confidence in the final triumph of her cause, faith in the justice of man, reliance upon a good Providence, ardent and buoyant of spirits, beauty and loveliness, we never saw combined in one woman.

## WESTERN INVESTMENTS.

An article in the Chicago Tribune informs us that shoals of people from New England and the Middle States are traveling westward to look after the farm lands and building lots in which they invested so much money last summer and spring, at a time of great inflation, or upon the security of which they lent money to western men.

We are glad to hear that people out of employment at the East, are going West to settle upon and cultivate the rich lands of that section; and we hope that tens of thousands will go there and become "tillers of the earth." There they can live in independence and amidst abundance. What, though they may be deprived of some of the luxuries they indulged in here, it will be better for them, physically, morally and religiously. Their children will be made to labor, and will breathe a purer atmosphere; they will become more hardy, more industrious, more steady, more moral, and more independent. That's the place for all out of employment, with families to support and bring up, to go to; and the sooner they are off the better for them and all.

A dispatch from St. Louis states that Gov. Walker had rejected the returns from some of the counties in Kansas, where it is alleged that hundreds of illegal votes were polled. If this be true, a different political complexion will be given to the Legislature.

BACKBONE.—This essential requisite in the composition of a true man is greatly neglected in these latter days. Infidelity of purpose is the consequence of more serious lapses than infidelity of principle. Men do not know how to resist the small temptations of life, from some deficiency in their moral arrangements; and the natural result is a departure from the right. Backbone is a man, and he must be firm on all points if he would pass unscathed through the struggles of life. He must never abandon the opinions which his judgment and reason approve; and he must learn to meet with prompt decision the constantly-recurring events which shape his career. One of the most important points, as connected with the question of backbone, is that of learning to say "No." Does a man ask us to do that which is inconsistent with our previous convictions, and which may compromise to a certain extent our integrity, we must have the backbone to stand up and say "No." Does an immediate difficulty press heavily upon us, an escape offer in a direction calculated, if known, to injure our position and character, we need that backbone which straightens up for the emergency and which promptly puts aside the danger. There is not a position in life, in which this great requisite is not constantly required. Neither is a stiff backbone at all inconsistent with the courtesy, forbearance, or kindness, of life; indeed, he only can come up to the mark of a true gentleman, who in all things is firm and just, and yet considerate of others.

NATIONAL PRODUCTIONS.—Nations are characterized not more by their people than by their other and inferior productions. There are some of the most notable "specimens" offered by several countries: China has tea, porcelain, and long-tailed mandarins; Germany, clocks, printing, glisten, Russia, emperors, hemp, and the knot; France, cooks, capons, compliments, and crinolines; Austria, carpets, diplomacy, and two-headed eagles; Prussia, Frederick the Great, school-masters, and tall grenadiers; Switzerland, watches, wooden toys, and Calvinism; Italy, popes, poets, paintings, music grinders, and revolutionary manifestoes; Spain, chivalry, court etiquette, Cortez, Columbus, and Gervanese. England has produced statesmen, poets, orators, generals, coast beef, the "Times" newspaper, poor laws, taxation, fogs, spleen, grumblers, colonels, cockneys, and "Punch." America has produced Washington, a model republic, the electric telegraph, anesthetic ether, and several thousand "live Yankees," who produce everything that is worth producing, and something else.

## Georgetown Correspondence.

Georgetown, Oct. 27, 1857.  
Mr. Editor: *Tempora mutatur*, (Times are changed,) is upon the lips of every one. The dreadful shock of financial ruin which has shaken the country to its centre, and the pall gloom and distress which has settled down upon the people of other cities, spreading desolation and dismay among all classes, producing an excitement never before witnessed, has also been severely felt in our city; the rich merchant has been sorely and ruthlessly shorn of his wealth and power, and the poor laboring man of the means by which he was enabled to give bread to his family. All realize that this crisis has, indeed, and in truth, made the poor poorer, and the rich so poor that none are willing now to do their lineage; "and the end is not yet." When, we humbly ask, will the people learn wisdom?

Our condition never was more critical than at the present time, yet there are individuals in our midst holding offices of honor and profit, derived from the people, who act as though they cared not how much the people suffer, so they continue to receive their monthly stipend for absolutely doing nothing; they act as though the tenor of office and its emoluments were to last forever; or they apprehend that this will be the last opportunity afforded them (very likely) to run the hands gloom the people's treasury—and they seem to be determined to make the most of it; their efforts to shuffle from the danger of responsibility, reminds us of the Otchik which, when pursued, finding no way of escape from its pursuers, thrusts its head under a bush, thereby foolishly supposing that, if it refuses to see danger, therefore there is none to apprehend. These parties, finding the people in full pursuit of them, are attempting to play the Otchik; but they have found that their wings are already broken, they will be captured, and then consigned to the grave of oblivion.

There are individuals holding office under our Corporation that seem to act as though they were determined to do as little as they possibly can for the amount of money paid to them by the Corporation. We will take the Mayor for example. What service does he render to the people as an equivalent for the amount of money he receives? Why, just nothing. A member of his own party thus illustrates the value of his services, viz., "the little end of nothing whittled to a point"—this opinion so freely expressed by this gentleman, and by him, is a prominent one of his own party; is the opinion of eight-tenths of all the citizens.

The Mayor is elected to see that the laws are faithfully executed—does he do it? Let the market-bus answer it; let the streets answer. They have not been so safely neglected before. The scale-house is kept closed, the market house is given up to negroes, the inefficient clerk of the market suffers and permits the pavements to be blocked up, so that it is almost impossible to get along. Quarrelling and swearing seems to be the order of the day in that locality. He is appointed proper persons to be the night guardians? Have there been no complaints made to him, and if so, has he acted upon those complaints? Have not some of the watchmen told him to his face that the captain does not do his duty? And has not the captain complained to him that the watchmen are on duty in a state of intoxication? Has he attended to these matters as he is expected and sworn to do? Are his appointments to office such as the people had a right to expect? Let the Mayor answer.

Can the Mayor give a reason why he was refused to be present at the meeting of the citizens convened at Forrest Hall, for the purpose of discussing the great question of connecting Georgetown with the London and Hampshire road, although strongly solicited to be there by those of his own party. Perhaps he would give a reason similar to the one he gave to the Corporation in his veto message upon the simple proposition of the two Boards to have an expression of the people as to whether they would, upon certain conditions, be willing to be taxed to raise an amount of money sufficient to connect our city with the London and Hampshire road. He says that these reasons for vetoing that measure were so supremely ridiculous and foolish, that, notwithstanding his veto, the resolutions passed both Boards unanimously; his reasons amounted to this; I don't understand you; the people shall not have anything to say about the road.

Our police officers seem to do all they can, but they are powerless in the hands of a weak and imbecile Mayor; one of them we know to be his right-hand man; he knows his master's failings, and, like the dog to his master, true to his instincts, he will bark and bite at the Mayor who is disposed to trouble his master. The Mayor is a plain, straight-forward man, bitter in his prejudices, but honest in his opinions, he has seen enough to convince him that his party is corrupt to the core, hence he is not in good odor in the Mayor's nostrils. Look at the street scavenger, who does he do, and what did he do for the last all summer? Let the Mayor answer truthfully, they did nothing but sit in the shade all day long, and were the laughing-stock for everybody. Does the Mayor attend to this duty as it is expected of him? Does he know how often this man leaves his duty to attend to his own affairs, or is he fearful that if he attempts to correct these things, this officer may turn upon him and tell him what another did but a short time ago, viz., "You yourself are not fit to be Mayor, you ought to resign."

Although we differ with the Recorder as much as it is possible for one man to differ with another upon general politics, yet candor and truth compels us to say that he is very much mortified at the mismanagement of our affairs; he has done and is still doing all he can to remedy the evils complained of, yet strange to say, the Mayor, who takes delight in thwarting his efforts to promote the public good, by interposing the veto upon those measures introduced and carried through by the Recorder; it is hinted that "there is a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself," pulling the wires that move the Mayor, through the veto, expecting thereby to embarrass legislation, that they may be brought prominently forward for the succession; let us caution those parties to beware—they are known. As we informed you some time ago, the American party have no intention to run the Mayor as a party in the coming election; the